

To the Chairman and Members of the  
SEDFIELD RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present  
an interim report for the year 1944.

General Statistics.

Area: 59,212 acres.  
Population: 52,912.  
Number of inhabited houses, Dec. 31st 1944: 8,905.  
Rateable Value: £121,589  
Sum represented by a penny rate: 456. 1. 4.

Extracts from Vital Statistics for the Year.

<u>LIVE BIRTHS.</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	340	305	645
Illegitimate	12	22	34
	<u>352</u>	<u>325</u>	<u>677</u>

<u>STILL BIRTHS.</u>			
Legitimate	16	18	34
Illegitimate	--	--	--
	<u>16</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>34</u>

<u>DEATHS.</u>	188	165	353
Total Birth Rate: 21.61			
Death Rate: All causes 10.73			
Deaths of infants under one year of age: 33			
Death rate per 1,000 births; Legitimate 48.74			
Illegitimate 0.00			
Infantile Mortality Rate: 46.40			

Causes of Death.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>
All Causes	188	165
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	-	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-
Whooping Cough	-	-
Diphtheria	1	1
Tuberculosis of respiratory system	2	7
Other Tuberculosis diseases	4	5
Syphilitic diseases	1	-
Influenza	3	1
Measles	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis, Polioencephalitis	-	-
Acute infectious encephelitis	-	-
Cancer of Buccal cavity: (oesophagus-M)		
(uterus - F)	3	1
Cancer of stomach and duodenum	5	8
Cancer of breast	-	1
Cancer of all other sites	22	7
Diabetes	-	2
Intra-cranial vascular lesions	21	20
Heart Disease	38	41
Other Diseases of circulatory system	2	5
Bronchitis	17	10
Other Respiratory Diseases	3	-
Pneumonia	6	9
Ulcer of stomach or duodenum	2	1
Diarrhoea under two years	-	1
Appendicitis	-	2

Causes of Death. Continued.

	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females</u>
Other digestive diseases	5	5
Nephritis	4	4
Puerperal and post-abortion. sepsis	-	-
Other maternal causes	-	3
Premature birth	5	4
Congenital malformation, birth injuries	8	6
Suicide	2	-
Road traffic accidents	3	1
Other violent causes	13	2
All other causes	20	18

Birth Rates, Death Rates, Analysis of Mortality And  
Maternal Death Rates in The Year 1944.

	<u>ENGLAND AND WALES.</u>	<u>SEDGEFIELD RURAL DISTRICT.</u>
<u>BIRTHS.</u>	<u>Rates per 1,000 Population.</u>	
Live ... ..	17.6	20.57
Still ... ..	0.51	1.03
<u>DEATHS.</u>		
All causes ... ..	11.6	10.73
Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers ...	0.00	0.00
Small-pox ... ..	0.00	0.00
Measles ... ..	0.01	0.00
Scarlet Fever ... ..	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough ... ..	0.03	0.00
Diphtheria ... ..	0.02	0.06
Influenza ... ..	0.12	0.12
	<u>Rates per 1,000 Live Births</u>	
Deaths under 1 year of age... ..	46.	48.74
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	4.8	1.47
<u>MATERNAL MORTALITY.</u>		
Puerperal Infection ... ..	Not Available	0.00
Others ... ..		4.43
Total		4.43
	<u>Rates per 1,000 Total Births (i.e. Live and Still)</u>	
<u>MATERNAL MORTALITY.</u>		
Puerperal Infection ... ..	0.28	0.00
Others ... ..	1.25	4.21
Total ... ..	-	4.21

Laboratory Work.

The undermentioned table shows the use made of it during the year -

<u>Bacteriological Examination for</u>	<u>Positive.</u>	<u>Negative.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Tubercle Bacillus ... ..	4	63	67
Diphtheria Bacillus ... ..	11	43	54
Typhoid Bacillus ... ..	-	-	-
Meningococcus ... ..	-	-	-
Haemolytic Streptococci... ..	-	-	-
	15	106	121



The following figures represent the work carried out by the Local Authority during the year:-

	<u>Positive.</u>	<u>Negative.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Throat swabs taken ... ..	22	145	165
Nasal swabs taken ... ..	4	38	42
Prophylactic Injections of Diphtheria			
Anti-toxin given ... ..	17		
Virulence Tests ... ..	None		

### Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

#### SCARLET FEVER.

92 cases of scarlet fever were notified during 1944 as against 65 for 1943.

88 cases were admitted to hospital and all recovered.

#### DIPHTHERIA.

During 1944, 37 cases of Diphtheria were notified as against 83 in 1943, 2 deaths occurred.

#### CONTROL OF INFECTION.

All cases were notified by telephone and removed without delay to your hospital.

As in the past ten years the throats of all 'contacts' were swabbed in order to detect any 'carriers' and injections of anti-toxin offered free of charge.

17 injections of anti-toxin were given to Diphtheria 'contacts' mainly children, 167 throat swabs, and 42 nasal swabs taken.

All 'carriers' discovered were warned as to their condition and 'swabbed' until free from infection.

#### Diphtheria Prophylaxis.

Under a Ministry of Health Circular (Autumn 1940) asking Local Authorities to secure the immunisation of as many children as possible in order to meet the increased risks which inevitably arise out of wartime conditions, this Council prepared a scheme whereby children of and under school age could be immunised free of charge to the parents, by the Medical Practitioners of the area at clinics set up in the schools and other suitable premises within the district.

Under this scheme, which commenced in August 1941, 518 children between the ages of 1 and 15 years completed the full course of treatment during 1944.

Since the commencement of the scheme, the total number of children who had completed the full course of treatment at the 31st of December 1944, was 5,632.

#### THE ISOLATION HOSPITAL.

One hundred and forty six cases were admitted to your Isolation Hospital during 1944, as against 172 in 1943.

Admission were as follows:-

##### (a) From Sedgfield Rural District.-

88	cases of	Scarlet Fever
48	"	" Diphtheria
5	"	" Cerebro-spinal Fever
1	case	Whooping Cough
5	cases	" Influenzal Pneumonia
1	case	Dysentery

#### CANCER.

During 1944 Cancer was given as the cause of death in 47 cases.

NOTIFICATION OF TUBERCULOSIS.

TUBERCULOSIS (New Cases and Mortality during 1944).

Age Periods	NEW CASES.				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Under 1 yr.	-	--	--	-	-	-	-	-
1 to 5	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	2
5 to 10	-	-	1	2	-	-	1	-
10 to 15	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
15 to 20	2	1	2	-	1	-	-	-
20 to 25	2	5	1	2	-	2	1	-
25 to 35	3	3	-	-	1	2	2	2
35 to 45	7	6	1	1	-	1	-	1
45 to 55	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 to 65	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	-
65 and over	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	17	19	5	3	2	7	4	5
	36		8		9		9	
	49				18			

Of the above new cases 19 respiratory cases were notified from the Durham County Mental Hospital leaving 30 new cases notified from the remainder of the district.

SUMMARY OF WORK.

Done in the Sanitary Inspector's Department during the year 1944.

(1) PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS	Number of Informal written notices by Inspector.	Number of Formal Notices by Order of Authority.	Number of Nuisances abated after Notice.
Dwellinghouses:-			
Foul conditions	8	-	7
Structural Defects	190	1	177
Overcrowding	6	-	6
Lodging Houses	-	-	-
Cowsheds, Dairies & Milkshops	26	-	26
Bakehouses	3	-	3
Slaughter Houses	-	-	-
Ashpits and Privies	11	-	9
Deposits of Refuse and Manure	13	-	13
Water Closets	40	-	37
Defective Yard Paving	6	-	6
House Drainage	91	1	85
Water Supply	4	-	3
Pigsties	7	-	7
Animals improperly kept	3	-	3
Other Nuisances	75	-	75
	485	2	457



5.

(2) PRECAUTIONS AGAINST INFECTIOUS DISEASE:-

Houses disinfected after infectious  
disease..... 162.

Schools disinfected after infectious  
disease ..... 2.



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## ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 1944 - INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

	At all ages	Age Groups												Total Deaths	Hosp.	Home.
		Under 1 yr.	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	65 and over			
NOTE. Civilian Notification Only.																
Scarlet Fever	92	-	2	7	4	3	46	16	9	5	-	-	-	-	89	3
Diphtheria	37	-	1	1	1	1	13	7	7	6	2	7	1	2	35	2
Erysipelas	11	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	11
Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	-	4	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	30	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	9	7	11	2	-	30	-
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Anterior Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pneumonia (Primary & Influenzal)	32	2	1	-	1	-	2	1	4	4	1	9	4	-	11	21
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	239	10	20	22	53	36	115	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	239
Whooping Cough	50	3	3	4	5	4	8	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	29
TOTAL	483	21	27	34	44	44	184	30	21	51	13	27	7	2	174	309

Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

In concluding  
my report I desire to thank all members of  
the Council and their staff for the valuable  
help and encouragement they have offered me  
throughout the year.

I have the honour to remain.

Your obedient Servant,

J.C.V. HINDHAUGH.

Medical Officer of Health.